The tiles used in the Central Jail, Viyyur.

497. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are any flooring tiles other than Sivakami's used in the Central Jail, Viyyur; and, if so, the party who supplied them, their exact quantity, price, etc., during 1100-1101 M. E.?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—During the year 1100, flooring tiles which were not the product of the Sivakami Tile Factory were used in some of the buildings constructed in the Viyyur Central Jail. These tiles were supplied by the contractor and covered an area of 36·6 squares. The work was paid for at a rate of Rs. 11—5—0 per square.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—These tiles were supplied by the contractors. May I know who is the contractor and the name of the factory of which these tiles were the products?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The contractor is one Mr. Baboo of Mala, and in fact, I do not know which factory manufactured those tiles.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Where they products of factories approved by the D. P. W?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not the product of a factory approved by the D. P. W.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether the Sivakami Tile Works also supplied tiles to the same building?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Were they supplying flooring tiles?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, some but not all.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it because they were not in a position to supply the whole?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes. They had no stock.

Cost of drugs supplied to the Central Jail.

498. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the cost of drugs supplied to the Central Jail Hospital in previous years was about Rs. 600 and that this year the cost is about Rs. 1,300;

(2) if the answer to the previous question is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state whether this increase was due to the rise in the cost of drugs or the increased quantity of drugs supplied;

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(3) if the increase is due to increased quantity will the Government be pleased to state if the quantity supplied this year was nearly double of the quantity of the last year?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) The average cost of drugs for four years prior to 1101 was Rs. 884—9—0. In 1101 it was Rs. 1,626-13-6.

(2) The increase is not due to the rise in the cost of drugs, but to the increased quantity of drugs supplied.

(3) More than double.

499. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the Superintendent of Central Jail reported to the Inspector-General of Prisons for an additional allotment;

(2) will the Government be pleased to state if it is a fact that the Superintendent has stated that the additional allotment had become necessary on account of the cost of drugs and that he was in no way responsible for this increased cost;

(3) will the Government be pleased to state what order has been passed by the Inspector-General and the Government on the requisition of the Superintendent of the Central Jail?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(1) Yes.

(2) The Superintendent reported that a portion of the additional allotment asked for by him was on account of the cost of medicines.

(3) The Inspector-General recommended the additional allotment.

Expenditure in the Tramway Department.

500. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the annual expenditure of the Tramway Department from 1090 to 1101 with the quantity of timber transported by the Tramway during those years?

Mr K. Govinda Menon.—The information required can be obtained from *the Administration Reports* for the years in question, copies of which are available in the Council Library.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Has not the Government noticed that from 1095 onwards the cost of fuel, sleepers, tallow and oil for the Tramway Department has been going up by leaps and bounds? It is nearly double, while the supply has become half.

President.—His question is why there is not a proportionate reduction in the cost of oil, tallow, etc., with reference to the quantity of timber transported.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The cost in the beginning, i. e., when the engines are new, and have more carrying capacity, is

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